REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-4, and 7 have been amended herein. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The specification has been reviewed in view of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Some of the paragraphs have been amended herein to address the issues raised by the Examiner.

Claim 1-4, and 7 have been amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance at an early date. If the Examiner has any continuing concerns about patentability of the claimed invention, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 510-843-6200, ext 245.

Respectfully submitted, BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

1- ME

Haruo Yawata

Limited Recognition under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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